

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT O 00449 152049Z
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 SIL-01 IGA-02 AID-05 SS-15 CU-02
LAB-04 /048 W
-----160125Z 053213 /70
R 151930Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 339

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PORT OF SPAIN 0449

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, EAID, AIFLD, TD
SUBJECT: PROPOSED AIFLD LOAN TO UNION OF COMMERCIAL
AND INDUSTRIAL WORKERS

REF: STATE 27590

I AM DISAPPOINTED THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAS NOT SUPPORTED THE EMBASSY'S VIEW ON THE PROPOSED AIFLD ACTIVITIES IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. SINCE IT APPEARS THAT A DECISION HAS ALREADY BEEN MADE TO APPROVE THE AIFLD LOAN IN QUESTION, I DO NOT WISH TO CONTINUE A FRUITLESS DEBATE. AT THE SAME TIME, HOWEVER, I DO WISH TO REITERATE SEVERAL POINTS OF CONCERN WHICH WERE REFLECTED IN THE EMBASSY'S POSITION AND WHICH WILL CONTINUE TO BE VALID, EVEN IF THE LOAN IS APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

A) AIFLD ACTIVITIES IN THE CARIBBEAN AND IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO ARE AN INAPPROPRIATE USE OF U.S.G. FUNDS TO SUPPORT ONE PARTICULAR SECTOR WITHIN OTHER COUNTRIES. THE FACT THAT THE GOTT HAS MORE THAN AMPLE FUNDS TO FINANCE ACTIVITIES WITHIN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO MAKES THE USE OF U.S. TAX PAYERS' MONEY FOR SUCH ACTIVITIES HERE EVEN MORE OBJECTIONABLE.

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B) THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, WHICH IS AT LEAST EQUALLY IMPORTANT TO THE INTERESTS OF THE U.S., CERTAINLY NEITHER APPRECIATES NOR APPROVES OF AIFLD ACTIVITIES TO STRENGTHEN THE TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO LABOR MOVEMENT. THE VIEWS OF THIS GROUP IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO (AS WELL AS THE U.S. BUSINESS COMMUNITY WHICH WAS NOTICEABLE BY ITS ABSENCE FROM

THE LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS CONSULTED ABOUT THE PROGRAM IN PARAGRAPH 2 OF REFTEL) SHOULD BE GIVEN PROPER WEIGHT IN THE CONSIDERATION OF PROGRAMS WHICH MAY HARM OUR RELATIONS WITH THIS IMPORTANT SECTOR.

C) THE ATTITUDES OF THE GOTT AND THE PRIME MINISTER TOWARD ACTIVITIES BY FOREIGN ORGANIZATIONS WITHIN T&T ARE NEITHER CONSISTENT NOR PREDICTABLE. ALTHOUGH OUR PRESENT READING IS THAT GOTT WOULD NOT OBJECT TO THE AIFLD LOAN, THE EXISTENCE OF ANY AIFLD PROGRAMS HERE LEAVES THE U.S.G. OPEN TO CHARGES OF INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF T&T. IN THIS CONNECTION SHOULD NOT THE CONCURRENCE OF THE MINISTER OF LABOR BE OBTAINED IN ADVANCE? AT SOME FUTURE DATE, THE GOTT MAY AGAIN USE AIFLD AS AN EXAMPLE OF OUTSIDE MEDDLING TO THE DETRIMENT OF OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS AND OTHER U.S. INTERESTS IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.
FAY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, LOANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PORTO00449
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770054-0472
Format: TEL
From: PORT OF SPAIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770240/aaaabjpv.tel
Line Count: 81
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0038cec6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 27590
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3319114
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROPOSED AIFLD LOAN TO UNION OF COMMERICAL AND INDUSTRIAL WORKERS
TAGS: ELAB, EAID, TD, US, AIFLD
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0038cec6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009